

U.S. Patent Appln. No. 10/507,151
Reply to Final Office Action dated June 19, 2006

PATENT
450100-04899

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance.

Claims 1-12 and 14-21 are currently pending. Claims 1, 12, and 19 have been amended and claim 13 is cancelled herein.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 8 as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) by Japanese Patent No. 2000-196720 ("the '720 patent"). The Examiner has rejected claims 12, 14-16, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,850,784 to SanGiovanni. The Examiner has also rejected claims 2, 3-5, 6-7, 9, 10-11, 13, 17-19 and 21 as unpatentable over the '720 patent or SanGiovanni in view of one or more of Applicant's alleged admitted prior art, Japanese Patent Application No. 10-312334, U.S. Patent No. 6,859,784, Japanese Patent No. 2000-69158, Japanese Patent No. 2002-9907 and/or U.S. Patent No. 5, 659, 361 to Jin.

Independent claim 1, as amended, recites in pertinent part:

the support portion is coupled to the main body at a position apart from the center along the longitudinal direction thereof through a first axis...

the display portion ... is coupled to the support portion through a second axis that is perpendicular to the first axis, [is] pivotable around the second axis,

wherein upon rotation of the support portion approximately 90 degrees around the first axis, the display portion is rotatable separate from the support portion approximately 180 degrees around the second axis. (emphasis added)

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Claim 1 has been amended to clarify one aspect of the instant invention which though previously part of the claim appears to have been misinterpreted by the Examiner. Specifically, the fact that the display portion of the cover is rotatable about the second axis, but the support portion of the cover is not. It is respectfully submitted that the relied upon portion of the '720 patent does not include such teachings. Indeed, the cover in the '720 patent is a single solid component and the display is not, separately from the support, rotatable about an axis. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 1 patentably distinguishes over the relied upon portions of the '720 patent and is allowable. Further, it is submitted that the shortcomings of the '720 patent are not addressed by the relied upon portions of the other cited references. Accordingly, claim 1 should be found allowable. Claims 2-11 depend from independent claim 1 and should therefore be found allowable therewith.

With respect to independent claim 12, it has been amended to recite:

a second body connected to the first body at the point on the first body through which the first rotational axis extends, said second body including a first and second portion and further comprising a second rotational axis,

wherein the second portion of said second body is rotatable, separate from the first portion, about the second rotational axis through an arc of at least 180 degrees, and wherein said entire second body is rotatable about the first axis through an arc of at least 90 degrees away from the first body.

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As with independent claim 1, claim 12 recites that the second portion of the second body is separately rotatable from the first portion. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 12 patentably distinguishes over the relied upon portions of the '784 patent and is allowable. Further, it is submitted that the shortcomings of the '784 patent are not addressed by the relied upon portions of the other cited references. Accordingly, claim 12 should be found allowable. Claims 14-21 depend from independent claims 1 and should therefore be found allowable therewith.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited reference, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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